

Today's News - Friday, September 21, 2012

EDITOR'S NOTE: Apologies for not posting yesterday - we were without Internet access for much of the day (ahhh technology).

- Weinstein ponders how architecture's and urban design's practice can change through studying of a little-appreciated Renaissance art, intarsia.
- Calys considers "a tale of two architects": Facebook selecting Gehry "smacks of nothing so much as a rich kid buying the shiniest toy he can," while San Francisco's Warriors "made the stronger play and for the right reasons" in choosing Snohetta.
- Hearing on the Eisenhower Memorial is delayed, but you can now review the 256-page design proposal.
- Southern finds the Biennale full of "forward-thinking and optimistic" work "despite the trash-talk that has proliferated in certain circles."
- Saffron cheers the transformation of an "urban Sahara" into "a series of peaceful, landscaped spaces" that now link the University of Pennsylvania campus to Philly's Center City.
- Benfield finds Houston's Project Row Houses "inspiring": "its most important contributions to its community may be pride and empowerment."
- Bernstein on Brooklyn's Barclays Center: its "weathered steel façade - and the involvement of the hip-hop mogul - will influence its success."
- An eyeful of the "flying carpet" housing the Louvre's Islamic Galleries, which opens tomorrow.
- A reflection on why we are "sometimes hesitant to embrace a concept such as PARK(ing) Day" (today!): it's time to "recognize that our streets are public spaces that serve more than just a transportation function."
- Q&A with RMJM's Morrison: "One needs to see beyond a tabloid-journalist mentality to appreciate the grit it takes to actually get a building built" (having war rooms and bunkers help, it seems).
- Eyefuls of Parks for the People: A Student Competition to Reimagine America's National Parks winners and finalists; CCNY and Rutgers take top honors.
- Call for entries: EO: "Change the Course" - The NYC Waterfront Construction Competition + 2013 World Habitat Awards.
- Weekend diversions:
- Vivanco comments on the importance of "Space Through Gender," on view in San Francisco, that puts the spotlight on a new generation of Latin American women architects (great slide show, too).
- Bard offers "Circus and the City: New York, 1793 - 2010" (a great read - and fab pix!).
- Benfield gives two thumbs-up to Marohn's "Thoughts on Building Strong Towns (Volume 1)": a "fiscal conservative's case against sprawl" - his "plain, easy-to-understand logic about public spending and return on investment is so consistent, and insistent."
- Adler gives (mostly) good marks to Ehrenhalt's "The Great Inversion": it "enters a debate raging among social scientists" about whether cities or suburbs are the future; while it's "an engaging read free of jargon, it is somewhat bloodless in its reportage."
- "Why Design" is a new online film series profiling some very talented folks.

To subscribe to the free daily newsletter [click here](#)

"Just Trying to Do This Jig-Saw Puzzle": How architecture's and urban design's practice can change through studying of a little-appreciated Renaissance art, intarsia. By Norman Weinstein- ArchNewsNow.com

A tale of two architects: ...by choosing Frank Gehry to design the big Facebook warehouse...Zuckerberg smacks of nothing so much as a rich kid buying the shiniest toy he can...The Warriors, it seems, have made the stronger play and for the right reasons. By George Calys -- HKS; SOM; HNTB; Populous; 360 Architecture; Beyer Blinder Belle; NBBJ; Snohetta/AECOM- San Francisco Examiner

Full Eisenhower Memorial Plans Posted, Hearing Delayed: ...will remain mired in a bureaucratic no-mans land for at least another month, it seems. -- Frank Gehry; Sam Roche/Right By Ike [link to 256-page design proposal]- DCist (Washington, DC)

Instigating Change with Common Ground: Despite the trash-talk that has proliferated in certain circles...this year's Venice Architecture Biennale doesn't have much to be cynical, negative, or nasty about...With so many countries focused on solving real social or environmental problems, almost all of the work...seems to ooze cooperation and unity, a rare quality in a discipline known for its emphasis on ruthless competition and star-f*cking notoriety. By John Southern/Urban Operations -- Toyo Ito; Urban Think Tank; OMA; FAT Architecture; DK-CM Architects; Cathy Lang Ho; Ned Cramer; Michael Sorkin; Freecell; MA-D; David Chipperfield; Wolf Prix [images]- Archinect

A lovely link from Penn to Center City: ...pleasant is not a word I would have ever used to describe the experience of trekking through that urban Sahara...It is now possible to make the trip by navigating a series of peaceful, landscaped spaces. By Inga Saffron -- Andropogon Associates; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

Community art or community development? Yes and yes, in Houston's inspiring Project Row Houses: While I have an increasing number of favorite examples of distressed neighborhoods being restored and strengthened - and that in itself is great news - none is more imaginative... By Kaid Benfield -- Rick Lowe [images, links]- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Success of Brooklyn's Barclays Center Will Be in the Eye of the Be-Hova: As the controversial arena nears completion, a SHoP-designed weathered steel facade—and the involvement of the hip-hop mogul Jay-Z—will influence its success. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Gregg Pasquarelli; Frank Gehry; Ellerbe Becket [images]- Architectural Record

The Louvre's Islamic Galleries: In Paris, Rudy Ricciotti and Mario Bellini's "flying carpet" creates an undulating addition to the Musée du Louvre...the largest intervention...since I.M. Pei plunged pyramids into its central courtyard in 1988. [slide show]- Architectural Record

PARK(ing) Day Completes our Streets: Why are we sometimes hesitant to embrace a concept such as PARK(ing) Day? ...let's talk about our anxieties...We must recognize that our streets are public spaces that serve more than just a transportation function...provides a short-term experiment to help us...visualize a different use of a metered, on-street parking space. -- Complete Streets; Rebar- International Parking Institute (IPi) / Parking Matters

War Rooms And Bunkers: An Interview with RMJM CEO, Peter Morrison: "One needs to see beyond a tabloid-journalist mentality to appreciate the grit it takes to actually get a building built." -- Declan Thompson- Forbes

Parks for the People: A Student Competition to Reimagine America's National Parks: winners announced: City College of New York (CCNY) and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, were honored with Awards of Excellence. [images]- Van Alen Institute / U.S. National Park Service / National Parks Conservation Association

Call for entries: Expressions of Interest/EOI: "Change the Course" – The NYC Waterfront Construction Competition; NYCEDC and the Hudson River Park Trust are seeking competitive proposals for innovative and cost-saving solutions for completing marine construction projects in New York City; cash prizes up to \$50,000; Phase 1 deadline: November 16- New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)

Call for entries: 2013 World Habitat Awards for projects that provide practical and innovative solutions to current housing needs and problems (international); cash prizes; Stage I deadline: November 1- Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF)

Latin America: A New Generation of Women Architects: ...curated by architect Nora Enriquez for an exhibition, "Space Through Gender," now on view in San Francisco...practices and projects span two continents... By Sandra Vivanco/A+D, Architecture+Design -- Tatiana Bilbao; Fernanda Canales; Frida Escobedo Lopez; Rozana Montiel; Rocio Romero; Galia Solomonoff; Catalina Patiño/Viviana Peña/Ctrl G; Ana Elvira Velez; Carla Juacaba [slide show]- Places Journal

"Circus and the City: New York, 1793–2010" offers a compelling look at how New York City influenced and inspired this iconic form of American popular entertainment; September 21, 2012, to February 3, 2013 [images]- Bard Graduate Center Gallery (NYC)

The Fiscal Conservative's Case Against Sprawl: In his new book, Charles L. Marohn, Jr. explains how sprawl is like a Ponzi scheme..."Thoughts on Building Strong Towns (Volume 1)"...Chuck Marohn is now a star among people who think about towns and cities...because his plain, easy-to-understand logic about public spending and return on investment is so consistent, and insistent. By Kaid Benfield -- Congress for the New Urbanism/CNU- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Suburb Slickers: Demographic churn is changing the nature and definition of cities and suburbs. We need policies that keep up with those changes..."The Great Inversion: And The Future of the American City" by Alan Ehrenhalt...enters a debate raging among social scientists since Richard Florida published The Rise of the Creative Class: Are cities or suburbs the future? ...an engaging read free of jargon, it is somewhat bloodless in its reportage. By Ben Adler - Democracy Journal

Why Design: Each Monday morning through October 29th...a new film series profiles designers... -- Yves Béhar; Don Chadwick; Ayse Birsel; Irving Harper; Gianfranco Zaccai; Studio 7.5; Steve Frykholm; Sam Hecht + Kim Colin - Herman Miller



-- Ken Price Sculpture: A Retrospective, LACMA, Los Angeles
-- Exhibition: "Palladio Virtuel," Yale School of Architecture Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut
-- Keith Williams Architects: The Novium, Chichester, UK

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.

[Yesterday's News](#)

© 2012 ArchNewsNow.com